



3 NUTRITION SERVICES

Effective: 12/1/95

3.50 Specifications for Nutrition Assessment Equipment

POLICY: Assessment equipment used by WIC projects must meet established specifications. WIC projects are responsible for the purchase of equipment.

PROCEDURE:

A. EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS

1. Infant scale(s):
 - a) Digital, with rechargeable batteries and recharger or AC adapter and cord, OR beam balance
 - b) Able to measure to at least 32 pounds
 - c) Able to measure to within ½ ounce
 - d) Produces readings in pounds and fractions of ounces
 - e) Accurate at both ends of the weight range
 - f) Has zero adjustment
 - g) Weights measured on the scale must be reproducible within ½ ounce
 - h) Must be able to take abuse (e.g., moving from location to location) and still maintain accuracy
 - i) If portable, has a carrying case
 - j) Optional features:
 - (1) If digital, auto-tare feature (i.e., can automatically adjust for the weight of a diaper)
 - (2) Bucket seat
2. Adult scale(s), placed on nonflexible surface:
 - a) Digital, with rechargeable batteries and recharger or AC adapter and cord OR beam balance



- b) Measures to within 4 ounces
 - c) Accurate at both ends of the weight range
 - d) Has zero adjustment
 - e) Weights measured on the scale must be reproducible within 4 ounces.
 - f) Must be able to take abuse (e.g., moving from location to location) and still maintain accuracy
 - g) If portable, includes carrying case
3. Infant recumbent measuring device (non-portable):
- a) Recumbent boards must be of high-quality construction with laminated or very durable varnished surface.
 - b) Calibrated in inches and centimeters (to at least 1/8 inch)
 - c) Able to measure to at least 39 inches
 - d) Firmly-fixed head board
 - e) Easy-glide attached foot board
 - f) Replacement foot boards available for purchase (in case of breakage)
 - g) Optional features:
 - (1) Ball bearings (for easier sliding of the foot board)
4. Infant recumbent measuring device (portable):
- a) TO BE DETERMINED
5. Stature measuring device(s):
- a) Permanent-mount stature measuring board OR measuring tape (metal or lexan) plus sturdy (e.g., wood) right angle head piece
 - (1) Permanent-mount stature measuring board:
 - (a) Calibrated in inches to at least 1/8 inch



- (b) Able to measure to at least a minimum of 30 inches and to at least 84 inches
 - (c) High-quality wood construction with laminated or very durable varnished surface
 - (d) Mounting hardware included
 - (e) Sliding head piece (optional: spring loaded)
 - (2) Measuring tape:
 - (a) Metal (to tape up, or with adhesive backing, e.g., lexan)
 - (b) Calibrated in inches to at least 1/8 inch
 - (c) Able to measure to at least 84 inches
 - (3) Right angle head piece:
 - (a) Wide enough to sit on top of the head and against the wall to facilitate getting a good measurement
 - (b) Has a handle
 - (4) Do **not** use the measuring rod on physician's scales to measure height. This procedure leads to inaccurate readings because the surface on which the person stands is not always stable, the measuring rod's hinge tends to become loose, the rod is too narrow and tends to bend with time, and the rod holder may be graduated in 1/4 instead of 1/8 inch increments.
6. Hematocrit or hemoglobin testing:
- a) Centrifuge (for hematocrit testing)
 - b) HemoCue (for hemoglobin testing)

B. OTHER EQUIPMENT

Since new products enter the market, other equipment may be used if it meets the specifications stated in this policy.

C. SOURCES FOR PURCHASING EQUIPMENT:

- 1. Measuring boards:



- a) Perspective Enterprises, 7622 Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
 - b) Ralph's Wood Crafts, 3875 E. Brookstown Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70805
 - c) Total Engineering and Marketing, 938 Michigan National Tower, Lansing, MI 48933
2. Scales:
- a) Perspective Enterprises, 7622 Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
 - b) Badger Medical, 702 S. Park St., Madison, WI 53715
3. Weights
- a) Rice Lake Weighing Systems, 230 W. Coleman St., Rice Lake, WI 54868
 - b) Perspective Enterprises, 7622 Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
4. HemoCues:
- a) Ryan Diagnostics, 24W 300 Maple Avenue, Suite 101, Naperville, IL 60504
5. Centrifuges:
- a) Badger Medical, 702 S. Park St., Madison, WI 53715 (Clay Adams centrifuge)
 - b) VWR Scientific (800/932-5000) (Clay Adams centrifuge)
 - c) HealthQuest, Inc., P.O. Box 3410, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223 (Crit Spin)
6. Plotting devices:
- a) Perspective Enterprises, 7622 Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 (Preciseplot)
 - b) HealthQuest, Inc., P.O. Box 3410, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223 (Graph Ease)
7. Gestation calculators:
- a) American College of Nurse-Midwives (available from Childbirth Graphics)
8. Equipment and materials may be purchased from other companies.